

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPACE SCIENCE BOARD

May 12, 1960

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Josh:

As a result of discussions between Dr. Glennan and Dr. Bronk a short time ago and similar talks between Dr. Berkner and Dr. Dryden, Dr. Bronk decided that for the sake of simplicity and a unified approach to space research activities, the Bio-Astronautics Committee of the National Research Council should be consolidated with the Committee on Biological Research of the Space Science Board within the Space Science Board complex. Several meetings between our staff (Odishaw, Peavey and me) and Seeley, Cannan and Mullins of the Bio-Astronautics Committee developed a reorganized structure of committees and panels which is reported in the attached memorandum of May 2, 1960. You will note that in accordance with Keffer Hartline's wish to be relieved from responsibility he will continue as a member of the Board and of the committees but you are named as the chairman of the Committee on Biological Sciences.

Subsequent discussions between Dr. Bronk and the members of the Bio-Astronautics Executive Council in Florida this week have produced a further simplification of this structure. Dr. Bronk now feels that there should be only one biological committee called the Life Sciences Committee within the Space Science Board. All of the Bio-Astronautics Committee's nine panels would be absorbed into this committee along with those sub-committees of the old Space Science Board Committee on Biological Research. You would be asked to accept the chairmanship of this new committee.

To discuss this new plan and to accomplish the reorganization as soon as possible, a meeting has been scheduled for Room 716, 1145 19th Street, 9:30 A.M. next Thursday, May 19. Your attendance is urgently

Dr. Joshua Lederberg

- 2 -

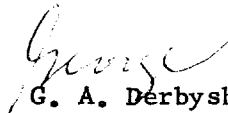
May 12, 1960

needed and we are hoping that Keffer can meet with us as well. If it were also possible for you to get together with Odishaw, Peavey, Hartline and me in Odishaw's office (Room 409, same building), it would be possible to bring you up to date on our thoughts and any new developments. I shall phone you this afternoon and discuss this with you.

For your information, a copy of the latest directory of the Bio-Astronautics Committee showing its panel structure and membership is enclosed.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,



G. A. Derbyshire
Space Science Board Secretariat

Enclosure